

## Message Text

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70

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 CAB-05 COME-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 FAA-00 /062 W

----- 050903

R 201130Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0019

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

UNCLAS ALEXANDRIA 0038

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, EG

SUBJECT: ALEXANDRIA CIVIL AIRPORT?

1. PROGRES DIMANCHE NEWSPAPER FOR JANUARY 18 TAKES OCCASION OF RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT CAIRO IS TO HAVE SECOND NEW, LARGER AND MORE MODERN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO RAISE LONGSTANDING LOCAL COMPLAINT THAT ALEXANDRIA HAS NOT EVEN ONE. PAPER NOTES THAT STUDY OF THIS QUESTION WAS UNDERTAKEN SOME TIME AGO AND PROPOSED SITE CHOSEN AT AL AMRIYA, TWENTY MILES WEST OF ALEXANDRIA AT START OF DESERT ROAD.

2. PAPER POINTS OUT THAT CITIES FAR SMALLER THAN ALEXANDRIA'S THREE MILLION PERSONS, FAR LESS IMPORTANT IN COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, HAVE SUCH AIRPORTS. IT SAYS NOUZHA AIRPORT TOO SMALL AND DOES NOT HAVE NECESSARY GROUND INSTALLATIONS AND CALLS CONSTRUCTION OF MODERN, WELL-EQUIPPED AIRPORT, "NOT A LUXURY BUT A NECESSITY."

3. COMMENT: ALEXANDRIA GOVERNOR HODEIB TOLD CONGEN LAST WEEK THAT RECENT STUDY OF NOUZHA CONFIRMED WHAT EVEN INEXPERT OPINION ASSUMED -- NOUZHA UNSUITABLE FOR RENOVATION AND EXPANSION BECAUSE OF SUBSOIL STRUCTURE WHICH IS ENTIRELY FILL

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OVER SEA SWAMP BASE. HE HAD NO IDEA IF GOE HAS ANY PLANS FOR

AL AMRIYA, SAYING AIRPORT PROJECT NOT OF HIGH PRIORITY.

4. MEANWHILE LOCAL BUSINESSMEN, ESPECIALLY IN GROWING EXPATRIATE COMMUNITY DEALING IN REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND ACTIVITIES, ARE URGING GOVERNORATE TO ASK DEFENCE MINISTRY TO RETURN NOUZHA TO CIVILIAN CONTROL OR AT LEAST SHARE USE (NOW LIMITED TO WHAT APPEAR TO BE VERY INFREQUENT TRAINING FLIGHTS BY FOUR MIG AIRCRAFT STATIONED THERE). THEY POINT OUT THAT PREVIOUS TO MILITARY TAKEOVER PROPIETS HAD REGULARLY SCHEDULED FLIGHTS TO ATHENS, BEIRUT AND NICOSIA, AS WELL AS CAIRO AND MERSA MATRUH. IF ALEXANDRIA WISHES TO HAVE MORE INTERNATIONAL FIRMS HERE, THEY MUST BE PROVIDED AT LEAST "FEEDER AIRLINE" SERVICE.  
CHASE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ETRN, EG  
**To:** STATE  
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